CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL   No. 1539

Introduced by Assembly Member Hagman
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Brown, Nestande, and Waldron)
(Coauthor: Senator Knight)

January 22, 2014

An act to add Section 60605.4 to the Education Code, relating to content standards.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1539, as amended, Hagman. Content standards: computer science.

Existing law requires the State Board of Education to adopt statewide academically rigorous content standards, pursuant to recommendations of the Commission for the Establishment of Academic Content and Performance Standards, in core curriculum areas.

This bill would require the *state* board to adopt*, on or before July 31, 2015,* computer science content standards, pursuant to recommendations developed by a group of computer science experts, *and in consideration of national computer science content standards,* that provide a framework *guidance* for teaching computer science education in grades 7 to 12, inclusive. The bill would require the Superintendent, in consultation with the state board, to convene that group of experts and ensure that the group includes individuals from *specified* groups specified in this bill.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 60605.4 is added to the Education Code,
2 to read:
3 60605.4. (a) On or before July ~~1,~~ *31,* 2015, the ~~State Board of~~
4 ~~Education~~ *state board* shall adopt computer science *content*
5 standards, pursuant to recommendations developed by a group of
6 computer science experts~~,~~ *and in consideration of national*
7 *computer science content standards,* that provide ~~a framework~~
8 *guidance* for teaching computer science education in grades 7 to
9 12, inclusive. The content standards shall include, but not
10 necessarily be limited to, standards for teaching coding. For
11 purposes of this section, "coding" is the process of converting a
12 program design into an accurate and detailed representation of that
13 program in a suitable language.
14 (b) *(1)* The Superintendent, in consultation with the state board,
15 shall convene the group of experts required in subdivision (a), and
16 shall ensure that the members of the group include, but are not
17 necessarily limited to, ~~individuals who are, science teachers in~~
18 ~~grades 7 to 12, inclusive, schoolsite principals, school district or~~
19 ~~county office of education administrators, university professors,~~
20 ~~and representatives of private sector business or industry.~~ *all of*
21 *the following:*
22 *(A) Teachers who teach computer science, including*
23 *mathematics and science teachers, in grades 7 to 12, inclusive.*
24 *(B) Schoolsite principals.*
25 *(C) School district or county office of education administrators.*
26 *(D) University professors.*
27 *(E) Representatives of private sector business or industry.*
28 *(2) The Superintendent, in consultation with the state board,*
29 *shall ensure that one-half of the members of the group are teachers*
30 *as described in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1).*
31 (c) The content standards may be used by school districts to
32 develop computer science programs and course assessments but
33 are not mandatory.

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